GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:944
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2000
PROCUREMENT OF LEVY
KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations about discrimination against the farmers of Andhra Pradesh with regard to procurement of levy rice through the Food Corporation of India (FCI);

(b) if so, whether farmers in the country were hit hardest as a result of the export-import policy being pursued by the Union Government during the last two years; and

(c) if so, the action taken to ensure that the farmers of Andhra Pradesh got the same benefit as that of Punjab?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI CHAUHAN)

(a), (b) & (c): The Government is not aware of any such representations about discrimination against the farmers in Andhra Pradesh with regard to procurement of levy rice through the Food Corporation of India (FCI).However, the normal system of procurement of rice by FCI for the central pool in Andhra Pradesh is different from that of Punjab.While in respect of Andhra Pradesh, rice is being procured through the levy route from the millers, in respect of Punjab most of the rice has been procured through custom milling of paddy procured by FCI/State Agencies. Certain relaxations in specifications of paddy and outturn of Custom Milled Rice have been extended to Punjab due to unseasonal rains and incidence of blight which affected the crops.